

LAW OFFICES
NEAL, GERBER & EISENBERG

TWO NORTH LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602-3801
(312) 269-8000
www.ngelaw.com

MICHAEL J. HUGHES
(312) 269-8064

FAX: (312) 269-1747
MHUGHES@NGELAW.COM

February 22, 2002

VIA FACSIMILE (353-1120)

Ms. Carol Ropski, SE-5J
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Emergency Enforcement & Support Section
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Re: Response to Information Request for the Downers Grove Groundwater Site

Dear Ms. Ropski:

I am writing on behalf of Precision Brand Products, Inc. ("Precision") in response to the U.S. EPA's Information Request dated January 30, 2002, which was received by Precision on February 5th, and in confirmation of our recent conversation. As we discussed, Precision is currently reviewing its files and compiling the information needed to respond to the Agency's request, but will require an additional thirty days to complete its search. You asked me to provide you with preliminary information, however, regarding former owners or operators of the Precision facility.

Precision does not currently conduct, and never has conducted, manufacturing operations using chlorinated solvents at its facility in Downers Grove. In 1980, Precision purchased certain assets of DuPage Manufacturing Co. ("DuPage"), which at that time occupied space in the same building with Precision. Both Precision Brand Products, Inc. and DuPage Manufacturing Co. were subsidiaries of Precision Steel Warehouse, Inc. Prior to 1980, DuPage conducted stamping and assembly of hose clamps at this facility. DuPage dissolved as a corporation in 1980, and Precision took over the space formerly occupied by DuPage. Precision does not currently have any additional information regarding previous owners or operators, other than DuPage Manufacturing.

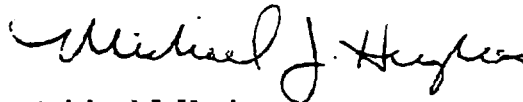
Precision will continue its search for responsive information, and expects to submit its formal response by March 24th. Thank you for your consideration in extending the deadline, which will ensure a more complete response with respect to the former operations at this facility.

NEAL, GERBER & EISENBERG

Ms. Carol Ropski
February 22, 2002
Page 2

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding the foregoing.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Hughes

MJH/ch

cc: Raymond Luchetti
Larry Franczyk